

VILLAGE OF BREWSTER
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
29 APRIL 2020
7:30 P.M.
SPECIAL MEETING
DRAFT Minutes

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Brewster is holding a virtual special meeting at 7:30 PM, on April 29, 2020 through Zoom Meeting. The Meeting ID is 207 812 8623 and the phone number needed to call in is 1-929-205-6099.

Attendees:

Mayor: James Schoenig
Deputy Mayor and Trustee: Christine Piccini
Trustees; Mary Bryde, George Gaspar, Tom Boissonnault
Village Police Chief:
Village Engineer:
Village Counsel: Anthony Molé
Clerk & Treasurer: Michelle Chiudina
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer:

Absent:

John Del Gardo
Todds Atkinson

Donna Milazzo

Pledge to flag.

Notation of Exits

Mayor Schoenig motions to open up the meeting, Trustee Piccini 2nd, all in favor 5 to 0.

Regular Meeting

1. 2020-2021 Budget Adoption. Mayor Schoenig asked Clerk Chiudina if she received any comments regarding the 2020-2021 budget. Clerk Chiudina responded that the Village has received no public comments written or email. Trustee Gaspar said that the deadline was April 20, 2020 by 11:59 pm and Clerk Chiudina received no comments sent in by email or snail mail. Clerk Chiudina confirms that no responses have been sent into the Village. Mayor Schoenig motions to accept the 2020-2021 Budget Adoption, Trustee Gaspar 2nd, all in favor 5 to 0.
2. 50 Main Street Lease. Mayor Schoenig mentions that we received the lease back for 50 Main Street and it is \$2.50 per square foot and the Mayor still needs to go over the square footage with Todd Atkinson. They have us down as having 2,300 square feet and the Mayor thought we had 2,000 square feet. The Mayor is trying to get a 5-year lease and was able to negotiate the price. Deputy Piccini asked when does the term start and what is the effective date. Mayor Schoenig said it is April 1, 2020 to April 1, 2023. Counsel Mole' commented on the back rent and is it from August 2019 to April 2020 that is due and do they want a lump sum or can it be spread out. The Mayor said they are asking for a lump sum but that will not be able to happen especially during these times and not knowing who is paying what or when and it is time to watch the nickels before they go out the window. The Mayor said he understands and was willing to work with the Village. Deputy Piccini questioned is it more desirable to have the arrears be distributed every month from now until the end of the 3 year term. Mayor Schoenig suggested spreading the arrears out over the 1st years rent. Deputy Piccini said only if they give us 5 years, if not then take the 3 years to pay it back especially with no penalty. Deputy Piccini motions to authorize Mayor Schoenig to sign the lease at \$2.50 per square foot for 3 years with an arrears from August 2019 through April 2020 with that arrears amount being spread out over the course of 3 years or extending to a 5 year lease, Trustee Gaspar 2nd, all in favor 5 to 0.
3. Extension of Water Bill Penalty. Clerk Chiudina has had a number of people contact the office asking if we are going to extend the water bill penalty. Mayor Schoenig asked if Clerk Chiudina knew how many people have paid their bill. Clerk Chiudina said possibly 50% have not paid and we usually have 80% that have paid by now. Deputy Piccini said that moving the penalty date to May 14, 2020 is an easy fix but a temporary fix. Trustee Bryde asked if the 2 weeks will make any difference. Deputy Piccini said it doesn't make that much of a difference just the appearance that we are aware of the situation and possible give them some time to pay their bills but sewer bills are going out and now people will have a 2 week extension for the water bills but then the sewer bills are due. Trustee Gaspar is in favor of waiving any penalties just for the fact that most people are experiencing difficulties and we do not need to take their penalty money. The Board agrees and Mayor Schoenig commented that if you have the money you will pay your bill. Trustee

Bryde said we need to show good faith during these difficult times, and we need to waive the penalty right now. Trustee Gaspar commented that under these circumstances we can do it at this time and when the bills go out again reevaluated in another month. Clerk Chiudina said her concern is not having the penalty and the next water bill goes out and the same situation comes up. Mayor Schoenig suggests waiving the penalty till May 14. Clerk Chiudina said our next scheduled meeting is for Wednesday, May 6, 2020 and we can revisit the water bill penalty at that time. Also, we will have a better understanding of how many people still owe their water bill. Clerk Chiudina said she will put out a notice that if you are having financial difficulty please call our office to discuss the options that the Board is willing to consider. Clerk Chiudina commented that she agrees we should allow people more time to pay their bills, but we do not get more time to pay our bond. Trustee Boissonnault and Trustee Gaspar both agree that the 2 weeks is a good start and if people have the money, they will pay their bills. Mayor Schoenig makes a motion to extend the water penalty until May 14, 2020, Trustee Bryde 2nd, all in favor 5 to 0.

4. Public Comment.

4.1 John Lord wanted to notify the public of the Town clean up from April 25 & 26 and May 16 & 17, 2020. If you need gloves, vests or garbage bags please call Supervisor Hay at 845-279-5345 located at Town Hall, 1360 Rt. 22. The Town of Southeast appreciates the volunteers who are cleaning up our roadsides.

4.2 Scott Seaman, Brewster Board of Education, called to see if there was anything they could do or any information they could spread to the Brewster School District community. Mayor Schoenig asked if he has heard anything about the schools reopening. Mr. Seiman said Governor Cuomo was making an announcement on Friday, May 1, 2020. Mayor Schoenig motions for executive session, Deputy Piccini 2nd, all in favor 5 to 0.

5. Executive Session.

6. Deputy Piccini motions to adjourn the meeting, Trustee Boissonnault 2nd, all in favor 5 to 0.